



Program Data

Social Security

The Social Security program—Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (OASDI)—provides monthly benefits to workers and their families when the worker retires, dies, or becomes disabled. The amount of the worker's retirement insurance (old-age) or disability benefit is based on the worker's level of earnings in employment or self-employment covered by the Social Security program. Monthly benefits are payable to retired workers at age 62 (with reduced benefits) or to disabled workers at any age. The benefit amount for an auxiliary or survivor beneficiary is based on a percentage of the worker's benefit. Auxiliary and survivor beneficiaries must generally meet an age, a disability, or child care requirement.

A total of 46,452,550 persons received benefits for December 2002. This number included 29,203,660 retired workers, 4,965,150 widows and widowers, 5,535,860 disabled workers, 2,832,350 wives and husbands, and 3,915,520 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 15.7 percent of the total population and 91.0 percent of the population 65 or older.

Retired workers received an average monthly benefit of \$895; widows and widowers, \$840 (nondisabled widows and widowers, \$861); disabled workers, \$834; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$439. Average benefits for children of deceased, retired, and disabled workers were, \$584, \$428, \$245, respectively.

Monthly benefits for December 2002 totaled \$37.9 billion. Of this amount, \$27.6 billion was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children; \$5.3 billion to survivors; and \$5.0 billion to disabled workers and their spouses and children. Average and total monthly benefits include the 1.4 percent cost-of-living increase effective December 2002.

In Delaware, benefits were paid to 140,960 persons. This number included 91,780 retired workers; 13,540 widows and widowers; 17,220 disabled workers; 7,220 wives and husbands; and 11,200 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 17.1 percent of the total

population of the state and 93.2 percent of the state's population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers in Delaware received an average of \$936 per month; widows and widowers, \$901; disabled workers, \$865; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$486. Average benefits for children were: \$453 for children of retired workers; \$623 for children of deceased workers; and \$261 for children of disabled workers.

Monthly benefits for December 2002 totaled \$122 million. Of this amount, \$90 million was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children; \$15 million to survivors; and \$16 million to disabled workers and their spouses and children.

Supplemental Security Income

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a federal cash assistance program that provides monthly payments to low-income aged, blind, and disabled persons in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Northern Mariana Islands. The program is based on nationally uniform eligibility standards and payment levels. The federal SSI payment is determined by the recipient's countable income, living arrangement, and marital status. As of January 2003, the maximum monthly federal SSI payment for an individual living in his or her own household and with no other countable income is \$552, and for a couple, \$829.

A state may supplement the payment levels of all or selected categories of recipients. These supplemental payments may be administered by the state or the Social Security Administration.

In December 2002, 6,787,857 persons received federally administered SSI payments including 1,251,528 aged, and 5,536,329 who were disabled or blind. A total of 1,995,284 recipients were aged 65 or older, 3,877,752 were 18 to 64, and 914,821 were under age 18.

The total number of persons receiving either a Social Security payment, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 50,834,080. Federally administered payments totaled \$2.9 billion in December 2002: \$2.6 billion in federal SSI payments, and \$328 million in state supplements. The average federally administered

payment was \$407. The aged averaged \$330; disabled and blind, \$425.

In addition, 552,567 persons in 31 states received state-administered payments in December 2002, which totaled \$70.2 million.

In Delaware, 12,565 persons—1,327 aged, and 11,238 disabled and blind—received federally administered SSI payments in December 2002. A total of 2,413 recipients were aged 65 or older, 7,324 between 18 and 64, and 2,828 under 18.

Federally administered SSI payments totaled \$5.0 million, of which \$4.9 million was federal SSI and \$94,395, state supplementation. The average federally administered payment was \$372 overall, \$235 for aged recipients, and \$388 for those disabled and blind.

In December 2002, the total number of persons in Delaware receiving either a Social Security benefit, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 149,280.

Earnings and Employment Data

Social Security

Nationally, in 2001, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 153.7 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Social Security (Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance or OASDI) program. They earned \$4.1 trillion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$514 billion in Social Security taxes to the OASI and DI trust funds.

In Delaware in 2001, an estimated 486,000 residents worked in employment covered under the Social Security program. They had \$14.10 billion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$1.75 billion in Social Security taxes.

Medicare

Nationally, in 2001, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 157.4 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Medicare (Hospital Insurance or HI) program. They earned \$5.1 trillion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$147 billion in Medicare taxes to the HI trust fund.

In Delaware in 2001, an estimated 489,000 residents worked in employment covered under the Medicare program. They had \$16.13 billion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$468 million in Medicare taxes.

State Statistics is an annual publication of the Social Security Administration's Office of Policy.

SOURCE: The data are from the Social Security Administration's administrative files. Program data for Social Security are from the Master Beneficiary Record, 10 percent sample; data for SSI are from the Supplemental Security Record, 100 percent data, and data reported by individual states. Earnings and employment data are from the Master Earnings File, 1 percent sample.

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Social Security

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A total of 46,452,550 persons received benefits for December 2002. This number included 29,203,660 retired workers, 4,965,150 widows and widowers, 5,535,860 disabled workers, 2,832,350 wives and husbands, and 3,915,520 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 15.7 percent of the total population and 91.0 percent of the population 65 or older.

Retired workers received an average monthly benefit of \$895; widows and widowers, \$840 (nondisabled widows and widowers, \$861); disabled workers, \$834; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$439. Average benefits for children of deceased, retired, and disabled workers were, \$584, \$428, \$245, respectively.

Monthly benefits for December 2002 totaled \$37.9 billion. Of this amount, \$27.6 billion was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children; \$5.3 billion to survivors; and \$5.0 billion to disabled workers and their spouses and children. Average and total monthly benefits include the 1.4 percent cost-of-living increase effective December 2002.

In the District of Columbia, benefits were paid to 73,280 persons. This number included 47,980 retired workers; 7,320 widows and widowers; 8,840 disabled workers; 2,750 wives and husbands; and 6,390 children.

Social Security beneficiaries represented 12.8 percent of the total population of the state and 77.5 percent of the state's population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers in the District of Columbia received an average of \$758 per month; widows and widowers, \$698; disabled workers, \$777; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$393. Average benefits for children were: \$369 for children of retired workers; \$455 for children of deceased workers; and \$240 for children of disabled workers.

Monthly benefits for December 2002 totaled \$52 million. Of this amount, \$38 million was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children; \$7 million to survivors; and \$7 million to disabled workers and their spouses and children.

Supplemental Security Income

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a federal cash assistance program that provides monthly payments to low-income aged, blind, and disabled persons in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Northern Mariana Islands. The program is based on nationally uniform eligibility standards and payment levels. The federal SSI payment is determined by the recipient's countable income, living arrangement, and marital status. As of January 2003, the maximum monthly federal SSI payment for an individual living in his or her own household and with no other countable income is \$552, and for a couple, \$829.

A state may supplement the payment levels of all or selected categories of recipients. These supplemental payments may be administered by the state or the Social Security Administration.

In December 2002, 6,787,857 persons received federally administered SSI payments including 1,251,528 aged, and 5,536,329 who were disabled or blind. A total of 1,995,284 recipients were aged 65 or older, 3,877,752 were 18 to 64, and 914,821 were under age 18.

The total number of persons receiving either a Social Security payment, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 50,834,080. Federally administered payments totaled \$2.9 billion in December 2002: \$2.6 billion in federal SSI payments, and \$328 million in state

supplements. The average federally administered payment was \$407. The aged averaged \$330; disabled and blind, \$425.

In addition, 552,567 persons in 31 states received state-administered payments in December 2002, which totaled \$70.2 million.

In the District of Columbia, 20,221 persons—2,281 aged, and 17,940 disabled and blind—received federally administered SSI payments in December 2002. A total of 4,606 recipients were aged 65 or older, 11,965 between 18 and 64, and 3,650 under 18.

Federally administered SSI payments totaled \$8.9 million, of which \$8.6 million was federal SSI and \$288,053, state supplementation. The average federally administered payment was \$407 overall, \$251 for aged recipients, and \$427 for those disabled and blind.

In December 2002, the total number of persons in the District of Columbia receiving either a Social Security benefit, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 88,145.

Earnings and Employment Data

Social Security

Nationally, in 2001, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 153.7 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Social Security (Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance or OASDI) program. They earned \$4.1 trillion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$514 billion in Social Security taxes to the OASI and DI trust funds.

In the District of Columbia in 2001, an estimated 360,000 residents worked in employment covered under the Social Security program. They had \$11.59 billion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$1.44 billion in Social Security taxes.

Medicare

Nationally, in 2001, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 157.4 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Medicare (Hospital Insurance or HI) program. They earned \$5.1 trillion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$147 billion in Medicare taxes to the HI trust fund.

In the District of Columbia in 2001, an estimated 373,000 residents worked in employment covered under the Medicare program. They had \$16.24 billion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$471 million in Medicare taxes.

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Social Security

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A total of 46,452,550 persons received benefits for December 2002. This number included 29,203,660 retired workers, 4,965,150 widows and widowers, 5,535,860 disabled workers, 2,832,350 wives and husbands, and 3,915,520 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 15.7 percent of the total population and 91.0 percent of the population 65 or older.

Retired workers received an average monthly benefit of \$895; widows and widowers, \$840 (nondisabled widows and widowers, \$861); disabled workers, \$834; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$439. Average benefits for children of deceased, retired, and disabled workers were, \$584, \$428, \$245, respectively.

Monthly benefits for December 2002 totaled \$37.9 billion. Of this amount, \$27.6 billion was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children; \$5.3 billion to survivors; and \$5.0 billion to disabled workers and their spouses and children. Average and total monthly benefits include the 1.4 percent cost-of-living increase effective December 2002.

In Maryland, benefits were paid to 743,760 persons. This number included 487,150 retired workers; 77,060 widows and widowers; 77,560 disabled workers; 37,920 wives and husbands; and 64,070 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 13.6 percent of the total

population of the state and 88.4 percent of the state's population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers in Maryland received an average of \$901 per month; widows and widowers, \$857; disabled workers, \$868; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$461. Average benefits for children were: \$461 for children of retired workers; \$594 for children of deceased workers; and \$270 for children of disabled workers.

Monthly benefits for December 2002 totaled \$620 million. Of this amount, \$459 million was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children; \$88 million to survivors; and \$73 million to disabled workers and their spouses and children.

Supplemental Security Income

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a federal cash assistance program that provides monthly payments to low-income aged, blind, and disabled persons in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Northern Mariana Islands. The program is based on nationally uniform eligibility standards and payment levels. The federal SSI payment is determined by the recipient's countable income, living arrangement, and marital status. As of January 2003, the maximum monthly federal SSI payment for an individual living in his or her own household and with no other countable income is \$552, and for a couple, \$829.

A state may supplement the payment levels of all or selected categories of recipients. These supplemental payments may be administered by the state or the Social Security Administration.

In December 2002, 6,787,857 persons received federally administered SSI payments including 1,251,528 aged, and 5,536,329 who were disabled or blind. A total of 1,995,284 recipients were aged 65 or older, 3,877,752 were 18 to 64, and 914,821 were under age 18.

The total number of persons receiving either a Social Security payment, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 50,834,080. Federally administered payments totaled \$2.9 billion in December 2002: \$2.6 billion in federal SSI payments, and \$328 million in state supplements. The average federally administered

payment was \$407. The aged averaged \$330; disabled and blind, \$425.

In addition, 552,567 persons in 31 states received state-administered payments in December 2002, which totaled \$70.2 million.

In Maryland, 89,705 persons—15,542 aged, and 74,163 disabled and blind—received federally administered SSI payments in December 2002. A total of 24,696 recipients were aged 65 or older, 51,250 between 18 and 64, and 13,759 under 18.

Federally administered SSI payments totaled \$37.9 million, of which all but \$1,722 was federal SSI. The average federally administered payment was \$389 overall, \$300 for aged recipients, and \$408 for those disabled and blind. In addition, 2,973 persons in Maryland received state-administered supplementation in December 2002, which totaled \$641,000.

In December 2002, the total number of persons in Maryland receiving either a Social Security benefit, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 807,246.

Earnings and Employment Data

Social Security

Nationally, in 2001, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 153.7 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Social Security (Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance or OASDI) program. They earned \$4.1 trillion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$514 billion in Social Security taxes to the OASI and DI trust funds.

In Maryland in 2001, an estimated 3.08 million residents worked in employment covered under the Social Security program. They had \$96.75 billion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$12.00 billion in Social Security taxes.

Medicare

Nationally, in 2001, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 157.4 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Medicare (Hospital Insurance or HI) program. They earned \$5.1 trillion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$147 billion in Medicare taxes to the HI trust fund.

In Maryland in 2001, an estimated 3.15 million residents worked in employment covered under the Medicare program. They had \$117.17 billion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$3.40 billion in Medicare taxes.

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A total of 46,452,550 persons received benefits for December 2002. This number included 29,203,660 retired workers, 4,965,150 widows and widowers, 5,535,860 disabled workers, 2,832,350 wives and husbands, and 3,915,520 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 15.7 percent of the total population and 91.0 percent of the population 65 or older.

Retired workers received an average monthly benefit of \$895; widows and widowers, \$840 (nondisabled widows and widowers, \$861); disabled workers, \$834; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$439. Average benefits for children of deceased, retired, and disabled workers were, \$584, \$428, \$245, respectively.

Monthly benefits for December 2002 totaled \$37.9 billion. Of this amount, \$27.6 billion was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children; \$5.3 billion to survivors; and \$5.0 billion to disabled workers and their spouses and children. Average and total monthly benefits include the 1.4 percent cost-of-living increase effective December 2002.

In Pennsylvania, benefits were paid to 2,376,520 persons. This number included 1,549,200 retired workers; 277,320 widows and widowers; 242,990 disabled workers; 141,370 wives and husbands; and 165,640 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 19.2

percent of the total population of the state and 93.3 percent of the state's population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers in Pennsylvania received an average of \$920 per month; widows and widowers, \$887; disabled workers, \$851; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$469. Average benefits for children were: \$470 for children of retired workers; \$615 for children of deceased workers; and \$242 for children of disabled workers.

Monthly benefits for December 2002 totaled \$2.0 billion. Of this amount, \$1.5 billion was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children; \$297 million to survivors; and \$224 million to disabled workers and their spouses and children.

Supplemental Security Income

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a federal cash assistance program that provides monthly payments to low-income aged, blind, and disabled persons in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Northern Mariana Islands. The program is based on nationally uniform eligibility standards and payment levels. The federal SSI payment is determined by the recipient's countable income, living arrangement, and marital status. As of January 2003, the maximum monthly federal SSI payment for an individual living in his or her own household and with no other countable income is \$552, and for a couple, \$829.

A state may supplement the payment levels of all or selected categories of recipients. These supplemental payments may be administered by the state or the Social Security Administration.

In December 2002, 6,787,857 persons received federally administered SSI payments including 1,251,528 aged, and 5,536,329 who were disabled or blind. A total of 1,995,284 recipients were aged 65 or older, 3,877,752 were 18 to 64, and 914,821 were under age 18.

The total number of persons receiving either a Social Security payment, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 50,834,080. Federally administered payments totaled \$2.9 billion in December 2002: \$2.6 billion in federal SSI payments, and \$328 million in state supplements. The average federally administered

payment was \$407. The aged averaged \$330; disabled and blind, \$425.

In addition, 552,567 persons in 31 states received state-administered payments in December 2002, which totaled \$70.2 million.

In Pennsylvania, 301,981 persons—34,156 aged, and 267,825 disabled and blind—received federally administered SSI payments in December 2002. A total of 64,250 recipients were aged 65 or older, 190,459 between 18 and 64, and 47,272 under 18.

Federally administered SSI payments totaled \$135.6 million, of which \$123.3 million was federal SSI and \$12.4 million, state supplementation. The average federally administered payment was \$419 overall, \$275 for aged recipients, and \$437 for those disabled and blind.

In December 2002, the total number of persons in Pennsylvania receiving either a Social Security benefit, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 2,583,113.

Earnings and Employment Data

Social Security

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In Pennsylvania in 2001, an estimated 6.75 million residents worked in employment covered under the Social Security program. They had \$184.52 billion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$22.88 billion in Social Security taxes.

Medicare

Nationally, in 2001, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 157.4 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Medicare (Hospital Insurance or HI) program. They earned \$5.1 trillion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$147 billion in Medicare taxes to the HI trust fund.

In Pennsylvania in 2001, an estimated 6.81 million residents worked in employment covered under the Medicare program. They had \$215.32 billion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$6.24 billion in Medicare taxes.

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A total of 46,452,550 persons received benefits for December 2002. This number included 29,203,660 retired workers, 4,965,150 widows and widowers, 5,535,860 disabled workers, 2,832,350 wives and husbands, and 3,915,520 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 15.7 percent of the total population and 91.0 percent of the population 65 or older.

Retired workers received an average monthly benefit of \$895; widows and widowers, \$840 (nondisabled widows and widowers, \$861); disabled workers, \$834; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$439. Average benefits for children of deceased, retired, and disabled workers were, \$584, \$428, \$245, respectively.

Monthly benefits for December 2002 totaled \$37.9 billion. Of this amount, \$27.6 billion was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children; \$5.3 billion to survivors; and \$5.0 billion to disabled workers and their spouses and children. Average and total monthly benefits include the 1.4 percent cost-of-living increase effective December 2002.

In Virginia, benefits were paid to 1,072,310 persons. This number included 665,380 retired workers; 113,500 widows and widowers; 139,550 disabled workers; 60,870 wives and husbands; and 93,010 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 14.7 percent of the total

population of the state and 91.6 percent of the state's population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers in Virginia received an average of \$875 per month; widows and widowers, \$803; disabled workers, \$835; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$442. Average benefits for children were: \$450 for children of retired workers; \$604 for children of deceased workers; and \$248 for children of disabled workers.

Monthly benefits for December 2002 totaled \$857 million. Of this amount, \$612 million was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children; \$118 million to survivors; and \$127 million to disabled workers and their spouses and children.

Supplemental Security Income

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a federal cash assistance program that provides monthly payments to low-income aged, blind, and disabled persons in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Northern Mariana Islands. The program is based on nationally uniform eligibility standards and payment levels. The federal SSI payment is determined by the recipient's countable income, living arrangement, and marital status. As of January 2003, the maximum monthly federal SSI payment for an individual living in his or her own household and with no other countable income is \$552, and for a couple, \$829.

A state may supplement the payment levels of all or selected categories of recipients. These supplemental payments may be administered by the state or the Social Security Administration.

In December 2002, 6,787,857 persons received federally administered SSI payments including 1,251,528 aged, and 5,536,329 who were disabled or blind. A total of 1,995,284 recipients were aged 65 or older, 3,877,752 were 18 to 64, and 914,821 were under age 18.

The total number of persons receiving either a Social Security payment, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 50,834,080. Federally administered payments totaled \$2.9 billion in December 2002: \$2.6 billion in federal SSI payments, and \$328 million in state supplements. The average federally administered

payment was \$407. The aged averaged \$330; disabled and blind, \$425.

In addition, 552,567 persons in 31 states received state-administered payments in December 2002, which totaled \$70.2 million.

In Virginia, 132,176 persons—22,984 aged, and 109,192 disabled and blind—received federally administered SSI payments in December 2002. A total of 37,615 recipients were aged 65 or older, 74,974 between 18 and 64, and 19,587 under 18.

Federal SSI payments totaled \$50.6 million. The average federal payment was \$355 overall, \$251 for aged recipients, and \$377 for those disabled and blind. In addition, 6,252 persons in Virginia received state-administered supplementation in December 2002, which totaled \$1.5 million.

In December 2002, the total number of persons in Virginia receiving either a Social Security benefit, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 1,154,061.

Earnings and Employment Data

Social Security

Nationally, in 2001, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 153.7 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Social Security (Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance or OASDI) program. They earned \$4.1 trillion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$514 billion in Social Security taxes to the OASI and DI trust funds.

In Virginia in 2001, an estimated 4.10 million residents worked in employment covered under the Social Security program. They had \$120.44 billion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$14.93 billion in Social Security taxes.

Medicare

Nationally, in 2001, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 157.4 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Medicare (Hospital Insurance or HI) program. They earned \$5.1 trillion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$147 billion in Medicare taxes to the HI trust fund.

In Virginia in 2001, an estimated 4.15 million residents worked in employment covered under the Medicare program. They had \$147.27 billion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$4.27 billion in Medicare taxes.

State Statistics is an annual publication of the Social Security Administration's Office of Policy.

SOURCE: The data are from the Social Security Administration's administrative files. Program data for Social Security are from the Master Beneficiary Record, 10 percent sample; data for SSI are from the Supplemental Security Record, 100 percent data, and data reported by individual states. Earnings and employment data are from the Master Earnings File, 1 percent sample.

CONTACTS:

- Social Security data, rona.m.blumenthal@ssa.gov or 410-965-0163.
- SSI data, arthur.l.kahn@ssa.gov or 410-965-0186.
- Earnings and employment data, greg.k.diez@ssa.gov or 410-965-0153.
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Social Security Administration

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Program Data

Social Security

The Social Security program—Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (OASDI)—provides monthly benefits to workers and their families when the worker retires, dies, or becomes disabled. The amount of the worker's retirement insurance (old-age) or disability benefit is based on the worker's level of earnings in employment or self-employment covered by the Social Security program. Monthly benefits are payable to retired workers at age 62 (with reduced benefits) or to disabled workers at any age. The benefit amount for an auxiliary or survivor beneficiary is based on a percentage of the worker's benefit. Auxiliary and survivor beneficiaries must generally meet an age, a disability, or child care requirement.

A total of 46,452,550 persons received benefits for December 2002. This number included 29,203,660 retired workers, 4,965,150 widows and widowers, 5,535,860 disabled workers, 2,832,350 wives and husbands, and 3,915,520 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 15.7 percent of the total population and 91.0 percent of the population 65 or older.

Retired workers received an average monthly benefit of \$895; widows and widowers, \$840 (nondisabled widows and widowers, \$861); disabled workers, \$834; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$439. Average benefits for children of deceased, retired, and disabled workers were, \$584, \$428, \$245, respectively.

Monthly benefits for December 2002 totaled \$37.9 billion. Of this amount, \$27.6 billion was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children; \$5.3 billion to survivors; and \$5.0 billion to disabled workers and their spouses and children. Average and total monthly benefits include the 1.4 percent cost-of-living increase effective December 2002.

In West Virginia, benefits were paid to 398,700 persons. This number included 202,840 retired workers; 57,400 widows and widowers; 68,190 disabled workers; 32,600 wives and husbands; and 37,670 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 22.3 percent of the

total population of the state and 93.3 percent of the state's population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers in West Virginia received an average of \$882 per month; widows and widowers, \$805; disabled workers, \$877; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$418. Average benefits for children were: \$414 for children of retired workers; \$587 for children of deceased workers; and \$256 for children of disabled workers.

Monthly benefits for December 2002 totaled \$314 million. Of this amount, \$193 million was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children; \$56 million to survivors; and \$65 million to disabled workers and their spouses and children.

Supplemental Security Income

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a federal cash assistance program that provides monthly payments to low-income aged, blind, and disabled persons in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Northern Mariana Islands. The program is based on nationally uniform eligibility standards and payment levels. The federal SSI payment is determined by the recipient's countable income, living arrangement, and marital status. As of January 2003, the maximum monthly federal SSI payment for an individual living in his or her own household and with no other countable income is \$552, and for a couple, \$829.

A state may supplement the payment levels of all or selected categories of recipients. These supplemental payments may be administered by the state or the Social Security Administration.

In December 2002, 6,787,857 persons received federally administered SSI payments including 1,251,528 aged, and 5,536,329 who were disabled or blind. A total of 1,995,284 recipients were aged 65 or older, 3,877,752 were 18 to 64, and 914,821 were under age 18.

The total number of persons receiving either a Social Security payment, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 50,834,080. Federally administered payments totaled \$2.9 billion in December 2002: \$2.6 billion in federal SSI payments, and \$328 million in state supplements. The average federally administered

payment was \$407. The aged averaged \$330; disabled and blind, \$425.

In addition, 552,567 persons in 31 states received state-administered payments in December 2002, which totaled \$70.2 million.

In West Virginia, 74,022 persons—4,952 aged, and 69,070 disabled and blind—received federally administered SSI payments in December 2002. A total of 12,710 recipients were aged 65 or older, 53,375 between 18 and 64, and 7,937 under 18.

Federal SSI payments totaled \$30.9 million. The average federal payment was \$384 overall, \$177 for aged recipients, and \$399 for those disabled and blind.

In December 2002, the total number of persons in West Virginia receiving either a Social Security benefit, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 448,837.

Earnings and Employment Data

Social Security

Nationally, in 2001, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 153.7 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Social Security (Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance or OASDI) program. They earned \$4.1 trillion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$514 billion in Social Security taxes to the OASI and DI trust funds.

In West Virginia in 2001, an estimated 872,000 residents worked in employment covered under the Social Security program. They had \$19.68 billion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$2.44 billion in Social Security taxes.

Medicare

Nationally, in 2001, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 157.4 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Medicare (Hospital Insurance or HI) program. They earned \$5.1 trillion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$147 billion in Medicare taxes to the HI trust fund.

In West Virginia in 2001, an estimated 881,000 residents worked in employment covered under the Medicare program. They had \$21.53 billion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$624 million in Medicare taxes.

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